

# Obituaries

## Yaacov Matzner and Amiram Eldor

Israeli haematologists who were killed in a plane crash in Switzerland

Professors Yaacov Matzner and Amiram Eldor were on their way back to Israel via Switzerland when their plane came down in dense forest three kilometres short of the landing field. They had been lecturing at an international haematology conference in Berlin and had booked the flight to Zurich so that they could return to their patients early on Sunday morning instead of taking a later flight back with their colleagues.

Professor Matzner, dean of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem and chairman of the Israel Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusions, was the son of Holocaust survivors. One of the world's experts on blood diseases including familiar Mediterranean fever (FMF), Matzner conducted research that led to a genetic test for FMF. He was working on cloning the gene connected to



Yaacov Matzner (left) and Amiram Eldor

FMF and investigating the normal physiological function of amyloid A, a protein often found in high levels in people with blood cancer. As medical school dean, he was credited with bringing in new technological teaching methods and of inculcating his strict code of medical ethics in his students. He leaves a wife, Linesya; and two children.

Professor Eldor worked for years at Hadassah-University Hospital's haematology department but left for his native Tel Aviv in 1993 to head the haematology institute at Ichilov Hospital. He was an internationally known expert on blood clotting—especially in women who had repeated miscarriages—and was a member of a team that identified eight new anti-clotting agents in the saliva of leeches. He leaves a wife, Sofia; and two sons. [JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH]

*Yaacov Matzner, dean of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, Jerusalem; b Czechoslovakia 1947; q Jerusalem; died in a plane crash on 24 November 2001.*

*Amiram Eldor, head of the haematology institute, Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital; b Tel Aviv 1942, q Jerusalem; died in a plane crash on 24 November 2001.*

## Paula Cienska



*General practitioner Ealing (b Lwow 1910; q Edinburgh 1948; LLB), died from metastatic breast cancer on 17 January 2002.*

She was forced to leave Poland at the start of the second world war and worked for the Polish government in exile in Paris (and later in London). She had further adventures escaping the enemy advances, characteristically with her beloved cocker spaniel smuggled under her coat. After qualifying at the newly formed Polish medical school in Edinburgh and junior posts at Wembley Hospital, she developed her own general practice in Ealing. She supported several Polish charities and individuals in need. Her husband, Zbigniew Rudowski, predeceased her. [KEITH BALL]

## Guy Nicholson Constable

*Former professor of anatomy and principal Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, India, and director of public health Bolton (b 1924; q Trinity College Dublin 1948; MA, MD, FFCMI), d 9 November 2001.*

He and his wife Joan went to India as medical missionaries in 1954 to the Christian Medical College and Hospital in Ludhiana, where he became professor of anatomy in 1958 and principal in 1962. In 1971 he returned to England for family reasons and retrained in community medicine. He held consultant posts in Bury (1974-76), Ipswich (1976-81), and Bolton (1981-91) as director of public health. [JOHN N CONSTABLE]



accomplished footballer and keen follower of Everton football club. He played bass guitar and was an avid reader. Allen was looking forward to the birth of his first child at the time of his death. He leaves a wife, Vanessa, expecting their daughter, Cerys. [PETER M BARNES, JONATHAN C KINNEAR]

## Allen John Hughes

*Psychiatrist Toowoomba, Australia (b Flintshire, North Wales, 1966; q Cardiff 1990; MRCPsych, MRANZCPsych), died in a plane crash in Queensland, Australia, while travelling to a clinic on 27 November 2001.*

Having overcome serious illness as a medical student, Allen completed house jobs in Wales, before training in psychiatry and settling in Australia. He was an

## Aftab Hussain

*Consultant psychiatrist Walsall (b Sadiqabad, Pakistan, 1939; q Lahore), died from renal failure on 9 January 2002.*

He spent some time in Saudi Arabia before coming to the United Kingdom in 1967. After training in Yorkshire he was appointed consultant in Walsall in 1982. Dr Hussain



was an intellectual who had a great interest in Islamic literature and history. He travelled to various parts of the world, including China. He was a founder member of the Muslim Doctors and Dentists Association of the United Kingdom. He leaves a wife; and a son. [MOHAMMED ANSARI, MOHAMMED EHTISHAM]

### John Cuthbertson Jeffrey

*Former occupational health physician Stratford-upon-Avon (b Kirkcudbright 1916; q Glasgow 1940; FRCS), d 27 January 2002.* Ian loved India, where he had served in the Royal Army Medical Corps, and in 1949 went to work in the Kolar Gold Fields Hospital, Mysore, becoming chief medical officer in 1952. He was interested in the problems of trauma, heat, and pneumoconiosis faced by miners working at depths of over 10 500 feet. In 1956 he worked as an occupational health physician in the civil service and David Brown Industries UK. In 1967 he became medical director of Firestone Plantations in Liberia, returning to Britain in 1973. He leaves a wife, Betty; three children; and eight grandchildren. [DAVID JEFFREY]

### Herbert Kaye

*Former ophthalmologist Johannesburg (b 1906; q Guy's Hospital 1928; DO, FRCS, FRCOphth), d 6 September 2001.* He began his medical studies as one of the first group of medical students at the University of Witwatersrand, before qualifying from Guy's, and completed his ophthalmology training in London and Edinburgh. He helped establish the ophthalmology programme in Johannesburg at the Transvaal Memorial Hospital for Children, St John's Eye Hospital, and the Johannesburg Hospital. An active teacher, he trained many aspiring ophthalmologists. He leaves a wife, Bobby; five children; and 12 grandchildren. [STEPHEN KAYE]

### Ekkehard Von Kuenssberg

*Former general practitioner Granton, Edinburgh (b 1913; q Edinburgh 1939; CBE, FRCP Ed, FRCOG, FRCCGP), d 27 December 2001.* He came to the United Kingdom from Austria as a student in 1933. By the time he

retired he had helped revolutionise UK general practice and equipped it to deal with the problems of the second half of the century. In the 1960s, in his capacity as chairman of the BMA's Scottish General Medical Services Committee, Ekke was one of the four representatives of the profession who negotiated the GP Charter. He was a founder member of the Royal College of General Practitioners, a fellow, chairman of council, and finally president. Before the effects of thalidomide on the fetus became obvious, Ekke, along with two neurologists at the Northern General Hospital, had drawn attention to some curious neurological disorders appearing in patients on thalidomide. It may have been as a result of this that he was invited to join the first committee on the safety of drugs, the Dunlop committee. [ALAN LARGE]

### Eva Martin-Bates



*Former consultant cytopathologist St Mary's Hospital, Paddington (b Bulgaria 1942; q Sofia 1966; FRCPath), d 26 July 2001.*

Eva came to England in 1969 and was appointed consultant cytopathologist to St Mary's Hospital in 1988. There she introduced innovative techniques, learnt during an attachment to the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, and she was responsible for the breast cytopathology service. Eva was a lively and dedicated person. She played the accordion and piano and sang Russian and Bulgarian folk songs with great spirit. She leaves a husband; and a son. [CHARLIE MARTIN-BATES, MARJORIE WALKER]

### Philip John Simpson

*General practitioner Jarrow 1992-5 and Sunderland (b 1960; q Newcastle 1983; MRCCGP, DA, DRCCOG), died from colon cancer on 27 December 2001.*

After anaesthetic work, GP vocational training, and posts in New Zealand and Australia, he returned to his roots in the north east and was appointed a GP principal in Jarrow. His local accent and straightforward style enabled him to communicate effectively with his practice population. In 1995 he was forced to take early retirement when he developed chronic autoimmune hepatitis. Two years later the aetiology was determined to be secondary to minocycline and

he returned to part time work. He learnt to fly at the old Sunderland airport and, while in New Zealand, he piloted a memorable flight over Mount Cook. He leaves a wife, Fiona; and three young sons. [ANTHONY HARNDEN]

### Norman Vincent Williams



*Former consultant chest physician Cardiff (b Middlesbrough 1912; q Edinburgh 1935; DPH), died on 23 November 2001 after a stroke.*

He was appointed medical superintendent at Cefn Mably Hospital, near Cardiff, in 1951. His particular interest was the care of patients with tuberculosis and his expertise led to his appointment as a recognised clinical teacher in tuberculosis at the Welsh National School of Medicine. When Cefn Mably closed in 1983, he became a consultant geriatrician at St Woolos Hospital, Newport, until retirement in 1985. Motoring was a lifelong interest for him and his cars were always pristine, not just on the outside but also under the bonnet. He leaves a wife, Olwyn; three children; and three grandchildren. [DONALD RIBEIRO]

### Helen Elizabeth Young (née Dunn)

*Former clinical assistant in haematology Dundee (b 1950; q St Andrews 1975), died from amyloid heart disease, secondary to myeloma, on 10 December 2001.*

After house jobs and vocational training for general practice, she moved to Alyth in 1979, where she combined motherhood with work as a research associate in the hypertension unit at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. When her illness struck, she was working at Meigle Community Hospital. Last year she was thrilled to be able to return to medical work in the haematology department at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. Her main interest was music. She leaves a husband, Sandy; and four children. [JESSIE SHAW]

**P+** Longer versions of these obituaries and an obituary of medical historian Roy Porter, who died on 4 March, are available on [bmj.com](http://bmj.com)